

# Christmas with the Giltspur Singers

*Conductor:*  
**Christopher Maxim**

*An Evening of Music and Readings  
for the  
Festive Season*

*in aid of  
Cancer Research UK*

*Generously supported by*  
**LANE & PARTNERS LLP**

The Temple Church  
Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2005 7.00pm

## Part One: *The Waiting*

*Adam lay ybounden*

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

*This is the truth sent from above*

English Traditional  
arr. R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*This is the record of John*

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

**Reading**      *Christmas*

John Betjeman (1906-1984)

**Hymn (Stand)** *Lo, he comes with clouds descending*

(attrib. Martin Madan (1726-1790))

**Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,  
once for our salvation slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.**

**Those dear tokens of his passion  
still his dazzling body bears,  
cause of endless exultation  
to his ransomed worshipers;  
with what rapture, with what rapture, with  
what rapture  
gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply  
wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.**

**Yea, amen! let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory;  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.**

## Part Two: *The Birth*

**Reading**      Matthew 1:18-25

*O magnum misterium*

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

**Reading**      Luke 2:1-20

*Quem vidistis pastores*

Poulenc

**Reading**      Matthew 2:1-11

*Videntes stellam*

Poulenc

**Reading**      John 1:1-5

*Hodie Christus natus est*

Poulenc

**INTERVAL**

### Part Three: *The Season*

*A spotless rose*

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

*Shakespeare's Song of Winter*  
(from *Love's Labour's Lost*)

Christopher Maxim (2003)

*In the bleak midwinter*

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

**Reading**     *In Tenebris*

Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

**Hymn (Stand)** *Good King Wenceslas*

*Piae Cantiones*  
arr. Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

**Good King Wenceslas looked out  
On the Feast of Stephen,  
When the snow lay round about,  
Deep, and crisp, and even:  
Brightly shone the moon that night,  
Though the frost was cruel,  
When a poor man came in sight,  
Gath'ring winter fuel.**

**ALL**

**Page and monarch, forth they went,  
Forth they went together:  
Through the rude wind's wild lament  
And the bitter weather.**

**LADIES ONLY**

**"Sire the night is darker now,  
And the wind blows stronger;  
Fails my heart, I know not how;  
I can go no longer."**

**MEN ONLY**

**"Hither page, and stand by me,  
If thou know'st it, telling,  
Yonder peasant, who is he?  
Where and what his dwelling?"**

**MEN ONLY**

**LADIES ONLY**

**"Sire, he lives a good league hence,  
Underneath the mountain,  
Right against the forest fence,  
By St Agnes' fountain."**

**"Mark my foot steps good my page;  
Tread thou in them boldly:  
Thou shalt find the winter's rage  
Freeze thy blood less coldly."**

**ALL**

**MEN ONLY**

**"Bring me flesh, and bring me wine,  
Bring me pine logs hither:  
Thou and I will see him dine,  
When we bear them thither."**

**In his master's steps he trod  
Where the snow lay dinted;  
Heat was in the very sod  
Which the saint had printed.  
Therefore, Christian men, be sure,  
Wealth or rank possessing,  
Ye who now will bless the poor,  
Shall yourselves find blessing.**

## Part Four: *The Traditions*

### Reading

*The Cratchits' Christmas Feast*

Charles Dickens (1812-1870)  
from *A Christmas Carol*

*Deck the halls*

Welsh Traditional  
arr. David Willcocks (b.1919)

*The Oxen*

Christopher Maxim (2005)

*In dulce jubilo*

German Traditional  
arr. Robert Pearsall (1795-1856)

**Hymn (All) *O come, all ye faithful***

18<sup>th</sup> century melody  
arr. David Willcocks

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and  
triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him, born the King  
of angels;**

*Refrain:*

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

**God of God, Light of Light,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten, not created;**

*Refrain*

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in  
exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God in the highest;**

*Refrain*

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born that  
happy morning;  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh  
appearing;**

*Refrain*

*Bethlehem Down*

Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

*The Giltspur Singers would like to thank Lane & Partners LLP for its  
generous support of tonight's concert.*

## **About Cancer Research UK**

Cancer Research UK began life in February 2002 following the merger of Imperial Cancer Research Fund and The Cancer Research Campaign.

### **Aims**

Cancer Research UK works alone and in partnership with others to achieve the following objectives:

1. **To carry out world-class research into the biology and causes of cancer**

Cancer is a highly complex disease that is still only partly understood. Only through a better understanding of the disease will the improved treatments, diagnostics and prevention strategies of the future be developed.

2. **To develop effective treatments and improve the quality of life for cancer patients**

Research will be carried out to accelerate cancer cure rates, aiming to translate our understanding of the disease into effective treatments. Research will also be directed at improving diagnosis of cancer, and at prolonging the life and improving the quality of life of those patients whose disease cannot be cured.

3. **To reduce the number of people getting cancer**

Research will be carried out into the influence of lifestyle, individual risk, environment and interventions such as vaccination on cancer, and into how people can change their behaviours to reduce their risk of the disease. The wider public will be made aware of cancer risk factors and the options available to them to reduce that risk.

4. **To provide authoritative information on cancer**

As a leading international research organisation Cancer Research UK will provide authoritative cancer information to the public and promote the best treatments and prevention strategies to governments, commercial organisations, those responsible for cancer care, and the media.

Further information about Cancer Research UK, including details of how you can become involved in supporting its work, can be found at:

<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org>

or by contacting the charity at:

P.O. Box 123  
Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PX

tel. (Supporter Services) 020 7121 6699

tel. (Switchboard) 020 7242 0200

## **The Giltspur Singers**

...were formed in the autumn of 2003. They take their name from Giltspur Street, which leads up to the entrance of the church where they rehearse: St Bartholomew-the-Less, inside the grounds of St Bartholomew's Hospital in the City of London.

The members of the choir are professionals in a wide range of careers, including the law, finance, teaching, medicine, the entertainment industry, and I.T. Some are music graduates and several are church organists; but, for the majority, music has always been a hobby. It is the sense of music as a source of relaxation and enjoyment that the Giltspur Singers hope to communicate in their performances.

### *Sopranos*

Amy Gooden, Antonia Mott, Elisabeth Somerville, Katy Turner, Elise Wylie

### *Altos*

Ian Goddard, Kirsty Payne

### *Tenors*

Simon Daniels, Chris Goodwin, Robin McCoubrey

### *Basses*

Duncan Atkinson, Tim Murray, Richard Salmon, Nick Whitehead

### *Christopher Maxim: Conductor*

... was Organ Scholar and an academic prizewinner at Bristol University. He gained his PhD at Cardiff, where he held a Research Studentship. After a few years as a lecturer, he moved to London. He is an Assistant Director of Bishop Challoner Catholic Collegiate School and Organist of St Matthew's, Bethnal Green. He has a broad conducting experience, but specialises in choral music (including works with orchestra) and liturgical performance. He is a published composer, academic and critic. He has broadcast on Radio 4, the World Service and Radio Wales; and he recently appeared on *Teachers' TV*.

**If you would like to join the Giltspur Singers  
or if you would like to hear about future concerts...**

please sign up to the choir's mailing list which can be found at the ticket desk  
or contact the Choir Administrator,  
Tim Murray, at [tim.murray@lane.co.uk](mailto:tim.murray@lane.co.uk)  
or call him on 020 7539 4146